

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01618 291610Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----090526 291614Z /11

O 291530Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7922
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1618

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU
SUBJECT: STIMULATING MOVEMENT ON VAROSHA

REF: A)NICOSIA 1611 B) STATE 161686

1. I MET WITH TFSC "PRESIDENT" DENKTASH JUNE 29 (REF A) AND PRESENTED INFORMAL PAPER ON VAROSHA. DENKTASH GAVE NO INDICATION OF PREVIOUSLY HAVING SEEN THE PAPER IN ANKARA. AFTER DENKTASH READ THROUGH THE PAPER, I MADE ALL THE POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAS 3 AND 4 REF B.

2. DENKTASH NOTED THAT HE COULD NOT GIVE AN ANSWER RIGHT AWAY, HE WOULD FIRST HAVE THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET LOOK AT THE PAPER AND THEN HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH THE GOT.

3. DENKTASH SAID IT IS TRUE THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE READY TO HAND OVER PORTIONS OF VAROSHA FOR RESETTLEMENT. HE HAD MADE THIS POINT WHILE IN WASHINGTON AND REEMPHASIZED IT
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IN HIS ERCAN ARRIVAL COMMENTS JUNE 28 (SEPTTEL). POINTING TO THE PAPER, HE SAID HE AGREED WITH US THAT THE FUTURE STATUS OF VAROSHA CAN BE DETERMINED ONLY THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT A SOLUTION CANNOT BE IMPOSED A PRIORI.

4. THINKING ALOUD, HE SAID, THE PROPOSAL SEEMED TO TURN EVERYTHING OVER TO THE UN IMMEDIATELY. HIS PREVIOUS THINKING HAD BEEN

TO ALL THE UN TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME FUNCTIONS LIKE POLICING (WHICH WOULD PROVIDE RETURNING GREEK CYPRIOTS WITH GREATER SENSE OF SECURITY) AND THEN GRADUALLY, BY THE TIME THE STATUS OF VAROSHA HAD BEEN DETERMINED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, TO HAND IT OVER TO THE UN AND THEN TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. REFERRING TO THE PAPER, HE SAID THE SPIRIT (OF HIS THINKING ON VAROSHA) WAS THERE AND THAT HE BELIEVED A GESTURE COULD BE MADE, BUT TO ACCEPT EVERYTHING WOULD BE ANOTHER MATTER.

5. DENKTASH THEN RAISED HIS "PERSONAL FEAR" THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD STILL SAY THE VAROSHA OFFER WAS NOT ENOUGH, AND THAT THE EMBARGO SHOULD BE CONTINUED IN ORDER TO PRESS THE TURKS. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD FIND THEMSELVES IN THE POSITION OF HAVING ACHIEVED ALL THE MAJOR CONCESSIONS THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS COULD OFFER EVEN BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS.

6. DENKTASH THEN NOTED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS WERE A PACKAGE CONTAINING CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS WHICH COULD BE BALANCED AGAINST TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS, THUS PROVIDING ROOM FOR MANEUVER. IN THE PACKAGE, VAROSHA HAD GREAT WEIGHT. IF THE U.S. PAPER WERE ADOPTED, THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD BE HANDING OVER VAROSHA WITHOUT ASSURANCES THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS OR THAT THEY COULD FIND TURKISH CYPRIOT CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS ACCEPTABLE FOR NEGOTIATION.

7. I RESPONDED THAT BY ACCEPTING THE VAROSHA PROPOSAL, THE
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TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD BE GIVING UP NOTHING AND HAD MUCH TO GAIN BY DEMONSTRATING FLEXIBILITY. IF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS DID NOT AGREE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS AFTER THE VAROSHA OFFER HAD BEEN MADE, IT COULD ONLY BENEFIT THE TURKISH SIDE IN INTERNATIONAL AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION. I NOTED THAT THE PROPOSALS WOULD TAKE EFFECT ONLY IF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AGREED TO NEGOTIATE AND THEREFORE THE TURKISH SIDE WAS NOT RISKING TOO MUCH. IN CONCLUSION I REITERATED THAT IT WAS OUR BELIEF THAT SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF THE VAROSHA WAS ESSENTIAL IF THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS TO BE ABLE TO CALL FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS. DENKTASH RESPONDED THAT PERHAPS WITH SOME CHANGES SOMETHING MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

8. COMMENT. DENKTASH APPEARED FRESH AND RELAXED DESPITE WHAT MUST HAVE BEEN A GRUELING TWO MONTHS ABSENCE. HE NOTED THAT THE MEDICAL PROBLEMS WITH HIS NECK AND SHOULDERS AND HIS THIGH HAD BEEN TAKEN CARE OF IN LONDON. END COMMENT.
STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NICOSI01618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780269-0539
Format: TEL
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978067/aaaaafzy.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9bbd568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 NICOSIA 1611, 78 STATE 161686
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2392873
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STIMULATING MOVEMENT ON VAROSHA
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU, US, (DENKTASH, RAUF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9bbd568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014